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To: Examiner Cynthia Wilder	U.S. Patent and Trademark Office	(703) 872-9306	(703) 305-1680
From: Valeria J. Sarosky			571-272-0791
Copy: Matthew P. Vincent Angela Guo			

Comments:

Re: U.S. Patent Application
Application No.: 09/866557
Title: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR RNA INTERFERENCE
Filed: May 24, 2001
Inventor: Beach et al.
Your Reference: HANNON01FA01CP02
Our Reference: CSHL-P02-010 (formerly GNCA-P02-007)

In response to your telephone call today regarding the above-referenced patent application, I have enclosed a copy of the Reply to Restriction Requirement (2 pages) and a copy of the Return Receipt Postcard filed on April 28, 2003. I have also enclosed a copy of the Change Request to change the attorney docket number for this application to CSHL-P02-010 submitted on 08/01/03. Please contact Matthew P. Vincent at (617) 951-7739 or Angela Guo at (617) 951-7546 with any further questions. Thank you.

Valerie Sarosky
Assistant to Matthew P. Vincent

PLEASE COMPLETE WHEN SUBMITTING TO FAX DEPARTMENT

Date: December 4, 2003	and 1/23/04 - 10 ^{3am}	Time: 4:37 PM
File Symbol: CSHL-P02-010		Personal ID Number: 27155
Submitted By: Valeria J. Sarosky		Phone: (617) 854-2087

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Change request receipt for application number: 09/866,557

Customer Name: Matthew P. Vincent	Date Submitted: 8-1-2003:13:14:55
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Requested Changes

Please change the attorney docket number for this application to CSHT-902-007

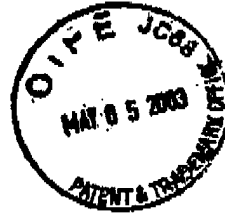
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(Formerly GNCA-902-007)

Via: First Class Mail		Atty Dkt No.: GNCA-P02-007
Inventor: Beach et al.		
Application No.: 09/866557	Filing Date: May 24, 2001	
Title: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR RNA INTERFERENCE		

Documents Filed:
Reply to Restriction Requirement (2 pages)

Return-receipt postcard



Sender's Initials: MPV/im	Date: April 28, 2003
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JAN 28 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of:

Beach, et al.
 Serial No: 09/866,557
 Filed: May 24, 2001
 For: Methods and Compositions for RNA Interference

Art Unit: 1637
 Attorney Docket No. GNCA-P02-007
 Examiner: Hashemi, Shar S

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date indicated below:

April 28, 2003
 Date of Signature
 and of Mail Deposit

Janine McNamara
 Janine McNamara

Commissioner for Patents
 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
 Washington, D.C. 20231

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This response is being filed in reply to the outstanding Office Action, mailed March 28, 2003, in connection with the above application.

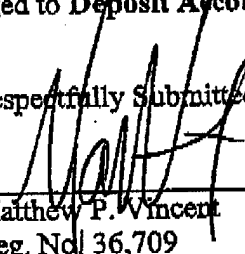
In reply to the outstanding Restriction Requirement, Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, Group VI (claims 30-40), drawn to an isolated guide RNA. Applicants traverse this restriction requirement based on the reasons which follow.

Applicants note that according to MPEP §803, two criteria must be met for a proper restriction requirement: a) the inventions must be independent or distinct as claimed; and b) there must be a serious burden on the Examiner if restriction is required.

Applicants respectfully submit that in this case, the Examiner has not shown that there would be a serious burden in examining the Groups set forth in the restriction requirement. In particular, Applicants note that it appears that the search for Groups VI

and Groups I, II, IV, and VII would be co-extensive. Claims of these groups are directed to the same mechanism, that is, inactivating a target gene by double stranded RNA (dsRNA), regardless of compositions or methods thereof. In fact, Groups II, VI, and VII are classified in the same class 435. It appears that a search covering the subject matter of Group VI would cover the subject matter of Groups I, II, IV, and VII as well. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the inventions of Groups I, II, IV, VI, and VII can be efficiently searched and examined together without placing a significant additional burden on the Examiner. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested.

The Examiner may address any questions raised by this submission to the undersigned at 617-951-7000. Should an extension of time be required, Applicants hereby petition for same and request that the extension fee and any other fee required for timely consideration of this submission be charged to **Deposit Account No. 18-1945**.

Respectfully Submitted,


 Matthew P. Vincent
 Reg. No. 36,709

Date: April 28, 2003

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